



PARTING GIFT

Outgoing House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio talks with reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015. House Republican leaders on Tuesday pushed toward a vote on a two-year budget deal despite conservative opposition, relying on the backing of Democrats for the far-reaching pact struck with President Barack Obama.
(AP Photo/Lauren Victoria Burke)

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No Shutdown, No Default: Congress, Obama Back Deal



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No Shutdown, No Default: Congress, Obama Back Deal

ERICA WERNER

AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Striving to end a cycle of crisis, congressional leaders and the White House united Tuesday behind an ambitious budget and debt deal aimed at restoring a semblance of order to Capitol Hill and ending the threat of government shutdowns and defaults until well after a new president takes office.

The outgoing House speaker, Republican John Boehner of Ohio, prepared to push the deal through his unruly chamber on Wednesday as his last act before departing Congress at the end of the week.

All but forced to resign under conservative pressure, Boehner was nonetheless going out on his own terms. The budget deal stands as an in-your-face rebuttal to his hardline antagonists, on Capitol Hill and off, who angrily oppose spending increases and compromises with Democratic President Barack Obama.

They seethed but acknowledged they were powerless to stop an agreement all but certain to pass with votes from Democrats and a sizable number of Republicans. Boehner brushed off their complaints, declaring that he intended to make good on his promise to leave a "clean barn" for his successor, Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, who is set to get the GOP nomination for speaker on Wednesday and win election on the House floor the day after that.

"I didn't want him to walk into a dirty barn full of you-know-what. So I've done my best to try to clean it up," a good-humored Boehner told reporters after a closed-door gathering of House Republicans, his last such weekly meeting after nearly five years as speaker and a quarter-

threat of "fiscal cliffs" by a GOP-led Congress in the middle of a campaign season where Republicans are aiming for the White House and trying to hang onto their slim Senate majority. Struck over recent days in closely held talks with White House officials and top House and Senate

providing \$80 billion more for military and domestic programs, paid for with a hodge-podge of spending cuts and revenue increases touching areas from tax compliance to spectrum auctions.

The deal would also avert a looming shortfall in the Social Security disability

compromise, which hasn't been happening in Washington a lot lately," the president said.

Said Vice President Joe Biden: "It will prevent us from lurching from crisis to crisis." Congressional Democrats have pushed for months for such a deal, bottling up routine spending bills in an effort to produce negotiations that would result in increased domestic spending. With resignation, one of the conservative rebels, Rep. Thomas Massie of Kentucky, complained of the deal and Boehner: "We can't stop it. He's in league with the Democrats."

But Massie also said that "it's a long game" and that conservatives are winning the war after forcing Boehner to resign and cowing his heir apparent, Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, into dropping his candidacy. That caused a power vacuum that threw the House into pandemonium for much of this month, until GOP leaders prevailed upon a reluctant Ryan, the party's 2012 vice presidential nominee, to seek the speakership.

Despite conservative anger over the budget deal, hard-liners sounded reluctant to take their fury out on Ryan, who claimed to have no role in the agreement and indeed criticized how it came about.

"I think this process stinks. This is not the way to do the people's business," Ryan said. "Under new management, we're not going to do the people's business this way." □



Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., right, walks from a meeting on Capitol Hill in Washington. Speaker John Boehner is pressing ahead with one last deal as he heads for the exits, pushing to finalize a far-reaching, two-year budget agreement with President Barack Obama before handing Congress' top job over to Ryan this week, congressional officials said Monday.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

century on Capitol Hill.

During the meeting, Republican lawmakers had a parting gift for Boehner: a golf cart with Ohio license plates reading "MR SPKR". Boehner told them he had a gift in return: the budget deal.

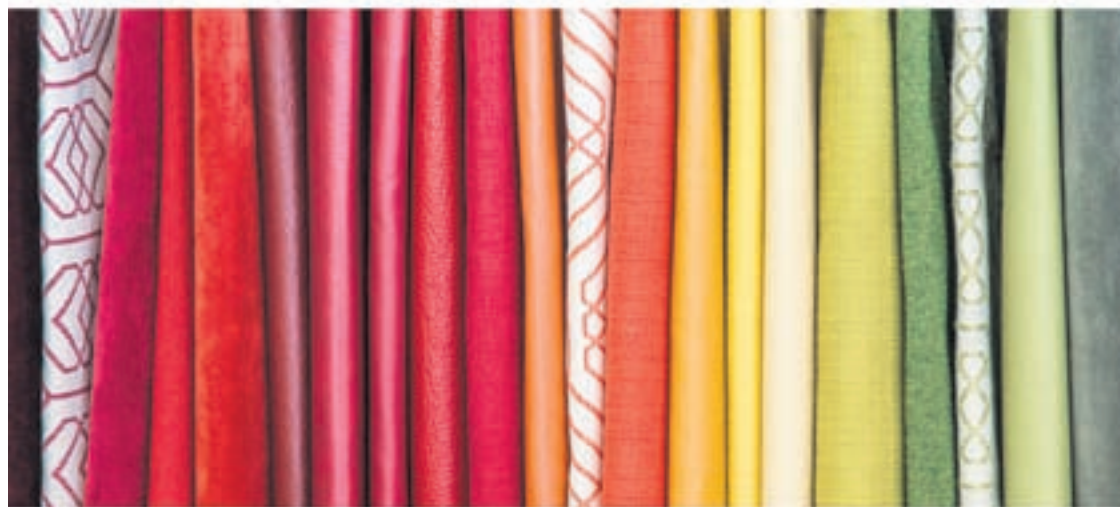
The deal would boost military spending as sought by defense hawks, even as it would take away the

leader of both parties, the agreement would raise the government debt ceiling until March 2017, removing the threat of an unprecedented and market-rupturing national default just days from now. At the same time it would set the budget of the government through the 2016 and 2017 fiscal years and ease punishing spending caps by

trust fund that threatened to slash benefits, and head off an unprecedented increase in Medicare premiums for outpatient care for about 15 million beneficiaries. Obama said the budget deal "reflects our values" and responsibly pays for investments in the middle class and national security.

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President Barack Obama pauses while speaking at the 122nd International Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015, in Chicago. Obama thanked the law enforcement leaders for the sacrifices they make and the work they do each day to keep their communities safe.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

Homicide spike draws alarm from Obama administration

ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — This year has brought an unusually grim and steady drumbeat of violence throughout the U.S.

A 5-month-old girl killed this month in Cleveland in a drive-by shooting. Seven people slain in Chicago over the July 4th weekend. A young female journalist in Washington, D.C., fatally struck by a bullet in May while waiting to change buses.

Violent crime has often been considered a local government concern and a problem that had been on the decline. But rising homicide totals in most of America's large cities have raised alarms within the Obama administration, with federal officials drawing urgent attention to the problem before Congress, at conferences and in speeches.

The Justice Department this month organized a brainstorming summit with mayors and police chiefs. FBI Director James Comey, testifying before Congress last week, said the "very disturbing" homicide spike has law enforcement scrambling to figure out why it's happening now, and why in so many cities that seemingly have little in common otherwise.

"It's happening all over the country, and it's happening all in the last 10 months," Comey told the House Judiciary Committee. "And so a lot of us in law enforcement are talking and trying to understand what is happening in this country. What explains the map? What explains the calendar?"

President Barack Obama addressed a meeting of International Association of Chiefs of Police in Chicago on Tuesday, where he defended police officers for doing their jobs with "distinction" and said they had been scapegoated for the failures of society and the criminal justice system. Attorney General Loretta Lynch had also been expected to speak, but her appearance was canceled because she was not feeling well.

Though the homicide totals are rising, they're nowhere close to levels of the early 1990s, when the crack cocaine epidemic contributed to hundreds of homicides a year in some cities. Even so, federal officials are concerned that the current trend comes as a series of high-profile police shootings of young black men have driven a wedge between police and their communities and placed policing tactics under extraordinary scrutiny. Each instance of perceived officer misconduct, and each time an officer is physically attacked while on patrol, risks widening that divide, Comey has said.

The uptick, if it continues, threatens to draw resources away from other police department initiatives — and reverse some of the progress cities have made against violent crime over the last two decades.

Washington, D.C., which in 2012 recorded just 88 homicides, already has 128 this year. Chicago police counted 385 killings as of Oct. 18, up from 323 on the same date last year. Police in Cleveland say they had 101 slayings as of Friday, an increase from the 87 they reported on the same date in 2014. There's no single explanation, and it's not clear whether this year's numbers are an aberration or the start of a worrisome trend. Some blame easier access to drugs and guns and have suggested that residents, including gangs, suddenly seem more willing to resolve petty disputes with deadly violence.

Some experts also think that the homicide totals had crept so low that it was unreasonable to expect that decline to continue, or theorize that police strategies may have stopped evolving amid success.

"We thought that all the things we were doing were making crime decline in meaningful, permanent ways," said John Roman, a senior fellow at the Urban Institute, a Washington think tank. "And it turned out we weren't doing as much as we thought, and the declines weren't permanent." □

Defense secretary says US is retooling fight against IS



Defense Secretary Ash Carter, accompanied by Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Joseph Dunford, testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015, before the Senate Armed Services Committee. Carter said Tuesday that the U.S. is willing to step up unilateral attacks against Islamic State militants in Iraq or Syria, a signal that the U.S. would escalate American involvement beyond airstrikes by giving the go-ahead for U.S. special operations forces' raids on the ground.

(AP Photo/Kevin Wolf)

DEB RIECHMANN
ROBERT BURNS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Signaling a possible escalation of U.S. military action in the Middle East, Defense Secretary Ash Carter said Tuesday that the United States is retooling its strategy in Iraq and Syria and would conduct unilateral ground raids if needed to target Islamic State militants. The U.S. has done special operations raids in Syria and participated in a ground operation to rescue hostages last week in northern Iraq that resulted in the first U.S. combat death in Iraq since 2011. Carter did not say under what circumstances the U.S. might conduct more ground action, but said, "Once we locate them, no target is beyond our reach."

"We won't hold back from supporting capable partners in opportunistic attacks against ISIL, or conducting such missions directly, whether by strikes from the air or direct action on the ground," Carter said, using an acronym for the militant group.

Carter and Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee. Republicans harshly criticized the Obama administration's strategy in

Syria and Iraq, where IS militants have captured large swaths of territory and have largely fought the U.S.-led coalition to a stalemate. With little recent progress in defeating the militant group, the defense secretary's testimony outlined a changing U.S. approach to the fight against IS. The changes point toward the prospect of deeper U.S. military involvement, although President Barack Obama has said he would not authorize a major commitment of ground combat forces.

Among other options being considered is providing close-air support for Iraqi ground forces with Apache helicopters or other aircraft, and embedding U.S. military advisers with smaller Iraqi units, thus placing the Americans closer to the front lines. That's according to defense officials who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

The U.S. now has about 3,300 troops in Iraq to train and advise Iraqi forces and to protect U.S. facilities. There are no U.S. troops in Syria.

Among options being considered is using U.S. Army Apache helicopters and perhaps other aircraft to provide close-air support for Iraqi ground troops in certain circumstances,

one U.S. defense official said after Carter testified. The official was not authorized to discuss internal deliberations publicly and thus spoke on condition of anonymity.

The administration also is considering other moves that would place U.S. troops closer to the front lines.

The changes Carter cited focus largely on targeting Raqqa, the militants' declared capital in Syria, and recapturing Ramadi, the capital of Anbar province in western Iraq, which IS fighters captured in May and have successfully defended so far. In Syria, Carter said the U.S. will support moderate Syrian forces fighting IS militants, who have made territorial gains near Raqqa. □

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Salem witch takes warlock to court over alleged harassment



In this 2003 photo, Christian Day poses in the Old Burying Ground in Salem, Mass. A judge is scheduled to hear a suit on Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2015, in Salem District Court brought by Lori Sforza, who calls herself a witch priestess, accusing Day, a self-proclaimed warlock, of harassing her online and over the phone for three years.

COLLIN BINKLEY
Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — A woman who calls herself a witch priestess said she is taking a

self-proclaimed warlock to court over accusations of harassment.

Lori Sforza, who runs a Salem witchcraft shop and

(AP Photo/Lisa Poole)
leads a pagan church, filed for court-ordered protection against harassment from Christian Day, whose website calls him the

"world's best-known warlock." Sforza accused Day of harassing her online and over the phone for three years.

The two will meet in court on Wednesday.

A lawyer representing Day declined to comment. Day owns occult shops in Salem and New Orleans, according to his website. His lawyer said he lives in Louisiana.

The 75-year-old Sforza is accusing Day, 45, of repeatedly calling her late at night from a private number and swearing at her, said Fiore Porreca, an attorney representing her. Sforza, who goes by the business name Lori Bruno, also alleged that Day made malicious posts about her on social media. "She's being abused, intimidated and harassed," Porreca said.

Porreca said the harassment has hurt his client's business. On her website, Sforza calls herself a psychic and a clairvoyant.

She claims to be a descendent of Italian witches who healed victims of the bubonic plague. She is also the founder of Our Lord and Lady Of The Trinacrian Rose, a pagan church in Salem.

Salem's Festival of the Dead — which culminates in the Official Salem Witches' Halloween Ball on Halloween night — was created by Day in 2003 and has expanded to include a psychic and witchcraft fair and a séance.

The Salem District Court and the lawyers in the case would not provide a copy of the order filed by Sforza. Sforza and Day were once business associates in Salem, Porreca said. They also made headlines in 2011 when they cast spells together to try to heal actor Charlie Sheen, who had called himself a "Vatican assassin warlock" during an interview on national television. □

Arrest of teen who texted in class prompts civil rights case

MEG KINNARD
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, South Carolina (AP) — A girl who refused to surrender her phone after texting in math class was flipped backward and tossed across the classroom floor by a sheriff's deputy, prompting a federal civil rights probe on Tuesday. The sheriff said the girl "may have had a rug burn" but was not injured, and said

the teacher and vice-principal felt the officer acted appropriately. Still, videos of the confrontation between a white officer and black teenager stirred such outrage that he called the FBI and Justice Department for help.

Sheriff Leon Lott suspended Senior Deputy Ben Fields without pay, and said what he did at Spring Valley High School in Columbia, South

Carolina "made him want to throw up."

Videos taken by students and posted online show Fields warning the girl to leave her seat or be forcibly removed on Monday. The officer then wraps a forearm around her neck, flips her and the desk backward onto the floor, tosses her toward the front of the classroom and handcuffs her.

Lott pointed out at a news conference that the girl can also be seen trying to strike the officer as she was being taken down, but said he's focused on the deputy's actions as he decides within 24 hours whether Fields should remain on the force.

"I think sometimes our officers are put in uncomfortable positions when a teacher can't control a

student," the sheriff said, promising to be fair.

The deputy also arrested a second teenager who verbally objected to his actions. Both girls were charged with disturbing schools and released to their parents. Their names were not officially released. The second student, Niya Kenny, told WLTX-TV that she felt she had to say something. □



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US Financial Front:

American home values and rents defying global slowdown

JOSH BOAK
C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writers
WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. housing appears to be insulated so far from the cooling global economy. Home values and rental prices are steadily rising, fueled by strong demand and a tight supply of available properties, a pair of reports Tuesday showed. The solid demand drove sales growth early this year and spurred additional construction. The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index climbed 5.1 percent in the 12 months that ended in August — a level many economists view as more sustainable than the sharp double-digit gains at the start of 2014.

And in September, median rents nationwide rose a seasonally adjusted 3.7 percent from a year ago, according to real estate data firm Zillow. As with home prices, the pace of rent increases appears more stable than the sharper increases earlier this year. Still, while three years of solid hiring and low mortgage rates have bolstered real estate, further gains will likely require better pay for workers. Increases in home values continue to exceed average annual earnings,

which have risen just 2.2 percent from a year ago. For now, homes in tech hubs with a high concentration of good-paying jobs appear to be the main beneficiaries of rising prices. S&P reported that San Francisco and Denver both enjoyed a 10.7 percent year-over-year jump in home values, the largest of any city. Portland, Oregon's annual gain of 9.4 percent was the third-largest.

"Prices are rising the fastest in markets where job growth and net migration are the strongest and inventories are the tightest," said Mark Vitner, an economist at Wells Fargo Securities. "Portland is an excellent example."

Those same metro areas were among the leaders in the rental increases tracked by Zillow. At the



A "sold" sign is posted outside a Harbor Beach neighborhood home in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Standard & Poor's released its 20-city home price index for August on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015.
(AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee, File)

same time, those high rental prices sparked some new construction, which has created more apartments and tempered the rental-price appreciation in recent months.

The median rent in San Francisco was \$3,348 last month, a yearly increase

of 13.3 percent. The year-over-year increase in August was even higher — 14.2 percent.

The housing market's overall gains are defying the impact of a sluggish global economy.

Falling commodity prices, weakened growth in Chi-

na, a struggling Europe and tumult in emerging economies such as Brazil have hampered a world that is still battling its way out of the 2008 financial crisis.

Not every area of the United States is benefiting. Rental price growth has slowed in areas at the epicenter of the oil and natural gas industry, according to Zillow.

Average oil prices have nearly halved in the past year to \$44 a barrel. Houston's rental costs are up 5.8 percent over the past 12 months, down from annual growth above 6 percent. Price appreciation has also slipped in Dallas and Tulsa. But the S&P index shows that home values have advanced a solid 8.9 percent in Dallas over the past year, a sign of resilience in the heart of Texas. □

US consumer confidence slips in October

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans turned slightly more anxious about the job market this month.

The Conference Board's consumer confidence index fell to 97.6 in October, down from a nine-month high of 102.6 in September.

"Consumers still rate current conditions favorably, but they do not anticipate the economy strengthen-

ing much in the near-term," said Lynn Franco, director of economic indicators at the Conference Board.

Fewer people surveyed for the business research group described jobs as "plentiful" compared to September, with that measure slipping to 22.2 percent from 24.8 percent.

The decline likely reflects the results of two consecutive jobs reports. Employers added just 142,000 jobs in

September and 136,000 jobs in August, after routinely chalking up monthly net jobs gains in excess of 200,000. Global pressures have shifted more of the burden for economic growth onto U.S. consumers — an uneasy transition in recent months. Auto sales, home-buying and spending at restaurants have advanced. But continued gains will hinge in part on steady job gains.

Many economists say that overall growth has been muted in during the most recent financial quarter. The private forecaster Macroeconomic Advisers said Monday that annualized economic growth in the July-September quarter is tracking 1.5 percent, down from 3.9 percent in the prior quarter. Consumer spending accounts for 70 percent of all U.S. economic activity. □

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China warns US Navy after ship sails by Chinese-built island

C. BODEEN

R. BURNS

Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — A U.S. Navy warship sailed past one of China's artificial islands in the South China Sea on

and warned the USS Lassen as it entered what China claims as a 12-mile (21-kilometer) territorial limit around Subi Reef in the Spratly Islands archipelago, a group of reefs, islets, and

and stability," the ministry said on its website.

"The Chinese side expresses its strong dissatisfaction and resolute opposition," the statement said.

The sail-past fits a U.S.

new outposts by piling sand atop reefs and atolls then adding buildings, ports and airstrips big enough to handle bombers and fighter jets — activities seen as an attempt to change the territorial status quo by changing the geography.

Navy officials had said the sail-past was necessary to assert the U.S. position that China's manmade islands cannot be considered sovereign territory with the right to surrounding territorial waters.

International law permits military vessels the right of "innocent passage" in transiting other country's seas without notification. China's Foreign Ministry, though, labeled the ship's actions as illegal.

The U.S. says it doesn't take a position on sovereignty over the South China Sea but insists on freedom of navigation and overflight. About 30 percent of global trade passes through the South China Sea, which also has rich fishing grounds and a potential wealth of undersea mineral deposits. China says it respects the right of navigation but has never specified the exact legal status of its maritime claims. China says virtually all of the South China Sea belongs to it, while Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam claim either parts or all of it.

State Department spokesman John Kirby said Tuesday the U.S. has a right to freedom of navigation in international waters, and such maneuvers "should not be construed as a threat by anybody." He said the U.S. wants relations with China to continue to deepen.

"The U.S.-China relationship is vitally important and one that we want to see continue to improve and to grow for the benefit of both our countries, not to mention the region," Kirby told reporters in Washington.

Beijing's response closely mirrored its actions in May when a navy dispatcher warned off a U.S. Navy P8-A Poseidon surveillance aircraft as it flew over Fiery Cross Reef, where China has conducted extensive reclamation work.

A Defense Department official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the Lassen's movements, said the patrol was completed without incident. A Pentagon spokesman, Navy Cmdr. Bill Urban, declined to comment.

Speaking to foreign correspondents in Manila, Philippine President Benigno Aquino III said he supported the U.S. naval maneuvers as an assertion of freedom of navigation and as a means to balance power in the region. □



In this 2008 photo, Chinese navy personnel get ready for U.S. Navy guided missile destroyer USS Lassen to dock at the Shanghai International Passenger Quay in Shanghai, China, for a scheduled port visit. The USS Lassen sailed past one of China's artificial islands in the South China Sea on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015, in a challenge to Chinese sovereignty claims that drew an angry protest from Beijing, which said the move damaged US-China relations and regional peace.

(AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

Tuesday, in a challenge to Chinese sovereignty claims that drew an angry protest from Beijing, which said the move damaged U.S.-China relations and regional peace.

China's Foreign Ministry said authorities monitored

atolls where the Philippines has competing claims.

"The actions of the U.S. warship have threatened China's sovereignty and security interests, jeopardized the safety of personnel and facilities on the reefs, and damaged regional peace

policy of pushing back against China's growing assertiveness in the South China Sea. U.S. ally the Philippines welcomed the move as a way of helping maintain "a balance of power." Since 2013, China has accelerated the creation of

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American killed in Palestinian attack was peace activist



Israeli policeman escorts Jewish visitors as they walk past the Dome of the Rock mosque in Jerusalem's most sensitive holy site, a hilltop compound in the Old City that is revered by Jews and Muslims, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015. Israeli and Jordanian officials said Tuesday that new surveillance cameras should be installed at the walled Jerusalem shrine at the epicenter of Israel-Palestinian violence within days, with the goal of streaming the footage live on the Internet for maximum transparency.

(AP Photo/Mahmoud Illean)

IAN DEITCH

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — An American educator who marched for civil rights in the 1960s and advocated coexistence between Muslims and Jews when he moved to Israel died Tuesday after succumbing to wounds sustained in a Palestinian attack on a bus in Jerusalem two weeks ago. It was one of many attacks in a month of violence triggered in part over Palestinian allegations of Israel changing long standing agreements at Jerusalem's most sensitive holy site, charges Israel has strongly denied and said amount to incitement to violence. In an effort to lower tensions at the site, Israeli and Jordanian officials said Tuesday that new surveillance cameras should be installed within days at the shrine, with the goal of streaming footage live online for maximum transparency. Jordan serves as the custodian of the Muslim-administered site. Richard Lakin, 76, died of wounds sustained on Oct. 13 when two Palestinian

men boarded a bus in Jerusalem and began shooting and stabbing passengers. It was one of the bloodiest attacks in recent violence in which Palestinian attackers killed 11 Israelis. In that time, 55 Palestinians have been killed, including 35 identified by Israel as attackers and the rest in clashes with security forces. Lakin was originally from Newton, Massachusetts, and a longtime principal in Glastonbury, Connecticut. His Facebook page displayed an image of Israeli and Arab kids hugging under the word "coexist." Micah Avni said his father was a beloved educator and author of a book on teaching. He was an elementary school principal in the U.S. and taught English in mixed classes of Muslims and Jews in Jerusalem after moving to Israel in 1984. In the 1960s, Lakin was active in the civil rights movement in the U.S., marching with Martin Luther King and bringing students from Boston to the South for sit-ins, Avni said. "He was a big believer in people and in peace and

in being kind and he never hurt a soul in his life," Avni said, adding that thousands of people from around the world have contacted him to express their shock and condolences after his father's death.

Suzanne Hertel of West Hartford, Connecticut taught under Lakin at the Hopewell School in Glastonbury, where he was principal. He championed an effort to bring students from inner-city Hartford to

Glastonbury under a program called Project Concern, she said.

Rabbi Richard Plavin of Beth Shalom B'nai Israel in Manchester, Connecticut, which Lakin attended before moving to Israel, said Lakin was a passionate man who pursued peace and justice. He said Lakin was a Freedom Rider in the 1960s, working to desegregate the South.

"He was really a peace-nik. He believed deeply in

a two-state solution and wanted to see Arabs and Jews living together in peace," he said.

Lakin was on the bus returning from a doctor's appointment for minor back pain when "he was brutalized by two Arabs from east Jerusalem who got on a bus, shot him in the head, then stabbed him in the face, then stabbed him in the head" and continued stabbing him multiple times in the body, his son said. □

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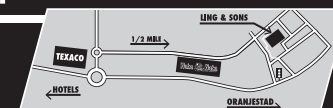
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Russia pounds Syrian rebels, then reaches out to opposition

SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — When Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said his country was ready to aid Syrian rebels fighting the Islamic State group, rebel commanders scoffed, pointing out that Russian aircraft were pounding their bases in central and northern Syria on a daily basis. Moreover, Lavrov not long ago had ridiculed the main Western-backed rebels known as the Free Syrian Army, calling the group a “phantom structure.” But some in the Syrian opposition are wondering whether the Russian offer, for all its ambiguity, might be worth seizing in order to test Moscow’s commit-

ment to finding a negotiated solution to the four-year civil war. The seeming change of tune is in sharp contrast to the stance of Syrian President Bashar Assad, who considers all rebels on the ground to be terrorists. “Maybe there is a disconnect between the regime’s discourse and that of the Russians,” said Munzer Abkik, of the Syrian National Coalition, an opposition group in exile that coordinates with the Free Syrian Army. “We are watching cautiously in the coming days to see if they are serious about finding a political solution through a real transition of power, or if they are simply maneuvering to gain time,” he said.



Free Syrian Army fighters look at a Syrian Army jet, not pictured, in Fafeen village, north of Aleppo province, Syria. When Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said his country is ready to aid Syrian rebels fighting Islamic State militants on the ground, rebel commanders scoffed at the notion, pointing out that Russian aircraft were pounding rebel bases in central and northern Syria on daily basis.

(AP Photo/Manu Brabo, File)

“The rebel commanders are considering this possibility ... If they sit with (Russian officials), they say they can find out if they are bluffing.” Russia says it has already met with rebel commanders in Moscow, a claim denied by the opposition and their political allies. But some mediators and politicians who coordinate with the Free Syrian Army say the Russians have reached out to the rebels, either to

individual commanders on the ground or through mediators. Lavrov first made the offer last week. On Tuesday, he repeated it, saying, “We would like and would be ready to help not only the Syrian army, but all opposition units confronting terrorists on the ground in Syria.” He said Moscow was reaching out to the United States and countries in the region to help locate mod-

erate and anti-terrorist opposition factions in Syria. “I would say frankly that it hasn’t been easy to find them, and we are still continuing the search,” Lavrov said. Retired Lebanese army Gen. Hisham Jaber, who is familiar with the Syrian military, said Russia is looking to show flexibility. “The aim is political ... to talk to those in the trenches, not those in hotels,” Jaber said. □

EU lashes nations on migrant crisis

LORNE COOK
Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union appealed to member countries on Tuesday to deliver on promises to deal with the refugee emergency, warning that the EU’s credibility is at stake. More than 600,000 people have entered Europe by land and sea this year seeking sanctuary or jobs, overwhelming border authorities and reception facilities. More than 3,000 have died. In response, EU leaders promised to share refugees

from Italy and Greece, boost spending and send police, border guards and experts to help register the arrivals. But so far actions have not matched the speeches delivered at five migration-focused summits this year. “The gap between the pledges and what is on the table must be reduced, otherwise we are losing all kinds of credibility,” European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker told EU lawmakers. The EU’s executive arm has drawn up plans to move

160,000 refugees from Italy and Greece over the next two years to ease their burden. “Nine member states have let us know that they can soon relocate 700 people,” Juncker said. “But let’s not forget that we have a decision to relocate 160,000 refugees in need of international protection.” The EU’s border agency Frontex has appealed for 775 experts to help register, screen and fingerprint people, but so far almost half that number has been pledged. □

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Because We Care, We Share:

Aruba Aloe Invites You to Join in the Fight Against Breast Cancer!



ORANJESTAD - This October, as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Aruba Aloe will launch its annual "Because We Care, We Share" campaign to support Aruba's Mary Joan Foundation and promote breast cancer awareness. With every purchase of \$75, Aruba Aloe will donate \$4.50 to the Mary Joan Foundation. The purchaser will receive a free special "125-year-Anniversary-edition Ultra-Intensive Cream" as a gift (value of \$18) for their contribution, as well as a pink breast cancer

awareness ribbon to show their support and spread awareness within the local community.

Breast cancer is by far the most common cancer in women worldwide. One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. Since 2008, worldwide breast cancer incidence has increased by more than 20 percent while mortality has increased by 14 percent. One-third of cancer deaths could be decreased if detected and treated early.

Breast Cancer Awareness

Month is a chance to raise awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer, as well as raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure. Aruba Aloe will support this cause by contributing to Aruba's local breast cancer organization, the Mary Joan Foundation, which gives support to those suffering from breast cancer, breast cancer survivors, and their families and friends, and also helps spread awareness about breast cancer,

particularly the importance of early detection.

"Because We Care, We Share" is a great opportunity for Aruba Aloe's clients to team up with Aruba Aloe to spread breast cancer awareness while also enjoying a special "125-year-Anniversary-edition" gift from Aruba Aloe. Aruba Aloe invites the community to visit its stores this October to participate in this special campaign. It also encourages the local community to visit and share the Mary Joan Foundation's Facebook page to help in-

crease awareness.

Aruba Aloe is the island's sole producer of beauty and healthcare products based on 100% pure Aloe-vera gel from Aruba. For the past 125 years, the company has sourced its Aloe gel from its own Aloe plantation in Hato, Aruba. Today, locals, island guests, and the international community can enjoy several unique collections of hair and skincare products, including the Aruba Aloe classic collection, Island Remedy, and Desert Bloom. □

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Prosecutor of Venezuela leader gives new details

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— A Venezuelan prosecutor who helped convict opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez is saying that the government had long plotted Lopez's arrest.

Prosecutor Franklin Nieves, who reportedly is now seeking asylum in the United States, said in a video posted Monday on the Venezuelan news website La Patilla that superiors in the prosecutor's office had given him orders to have Lopez arrested days before the Caracas protest — and the alleged crime — took place.

Nieves said orders went out to arrest Lopez at an earlier scheduled protest, but Lopez did not appear so the plan was dropped.

Nieves fled Venezuela and apologized last week for his role in what he called a sham trial. Lopez was convicted in September of inciting violence during

a 2014 anti-government protest in Caracas and received the maximum sentence, about 14 years. Lopez insisted that he never called for violence, but



A woman wearing handcuffs, chains and a rosary holds a poster of jailed opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez in Caracas, Venezuela.

(AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos)

prosecutors argued that violence was implicit in his calls for the resignation of President Nicolas Maduro. Lopez was mayor of an

upscale neighborhood in Caracas, and has for years been one of the primary leaders of the hardline opposition to the country's socialist administration.

Nieves has promised to reveal more evidence that Lopez was railroaded. In an interview published Monday, he told the Wall Street

Journal that he is in Miami and is seeking asylum with his wife and two daughters. Venezuela's chief prosecutor, Luisa Ortega Diaz, on Monday denied that Nieves was pressured to go after Lopez, and rejected calls to annul Lopez's sentence. She said Nieves had caved in to foreign interests. "We at the prosecutors' office we don't put pressure on anyone," she said in a televised interview. Twenty members of Congress have called for sanctions against Nieves and four other Venezuelan officials involved in Lopez's trial. The request came in a bipartisan letter sent to Secretary of State John Kerry and Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew.

This week, some of those same Congress members are using Nieves testimony to renew their calls for sanctions on Venezuelan officials

In The Caribbean:

Tobago police hold two over murder of British lawyer, wife

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad (AP)

— Investigators in Trinidad and Tobago have arrested two suspects in the slaying of a British lawyer and his wife. Assistant Police Commissioner Vincel Edwards says one suspect is a Tobago man and the other is from St. Vincent. A lawyer representing them could not immediately be contacted.

The British couple were found slain in their home in the Tobago community of Carnbee early last week. They were identified as Richard and Grace Wheeler.

Richard Wheeler was originally from Sheffield, but worked as a lawyer for the Lex Caribbean firm, where he was a partner in the Tobago office specializing in property development.

Colombia finds four survivors of rebel ambush

JOSHUA GOODMAN

Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)

— Colombian authorities said Tuesday they have found four survivors of a rebel ambush that killed 12 members of the security forces who were escorting election workers from a local election on a remote Indian reservation.

Two soldiers remain missing and were likely captured by the National Liberation Army, or ELN, which carried out the attack before dawn Monday in the Andean highlands, on the edge of the popular Sierra Nevada del Cocuy national park. The attack by the ELN, Co-

lombia's second-biggest rebel group, comes as momentum had been building for the Cuban-inspired insurgency to soon join the more-powerful Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia and enter formal negotiations to end a half-century of bloodshed. The ELN has been holding exploratory talks with the government outside of Colombia for more than a year.

Among the survivors found are two poll workers who had been transporting some 130 ballots to the capital for tallying.

The ballots had been cast at the remote Bachira reservation of the U'wa tribe

during Sunday's elections for governors, mayors and other local officials.

It's unclear what impact the attack, the deadliest by the ELN since 2013, will have on those talks, but several conservative politicians have called on the government to suspend the effort. President Juan Manuel Santos expressed outrage, saying the guerrilla action marred what had otherwise been the safest regional elections Colombia has held in decades, with a 60 percent reduction in violence compared with the previous vote in 2011.

"This is an event that demonstrates the ELN haven't

understood that it's time for peace, not for war," said Santos, adding that he ordered the military to redouble a military offensive against the ELN's remaining 1,500 fighters, most of whom are concentrated in eastern Colombia, near where the attack took place.

"If the ELN thinks that these acts they are going to gain political space or strengthen their position before an eventual negotiations they are completely wrong."

Of those killed early Monday, 11 were members of the army while the other was a police officer. □

Dominican workers battle dengue fever amid uptick in illness

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)

— Dominican health officials say that public workers will fan out across the Caribbean country to spray insecticides and instruct citizens how best to avoid contracting dengue fever. Health Minister Altagracia Guzman said the effort comes amid an uptick of the mosquito-borne illness. So far this year, there have been 98 deaths and over 8,500 reported cases. That's nearly double the 52 dengue deaths reported during the same period in 2014. Among the victims is local TV presenter Juan Luis Reynoso. □



Hadicurari Presents Ronald van Hasenbroek as its New Executive Chef



PALM BEACH - Exciting vibes are sweeping through Hadicurari Restaurant as experienced top chef Ronald van Hasenbroek takes the helm in the kitchen. His goal: raising the level and improving the various parts that make a kitchen great. "I want Hadicurari to stand out for its quality, presentation and creativity," says Ronald, who is still bowled over by the amazing restaurant view of the azure ocean, the fishing boats and the white beach, which is shimmering in sunshine. Hadicurari, located between the Marriott Surf Club and MooMba Beach on the hi-rise strip, probably has one of the best locations on the island; it is wildly popular with guests of the Ritz Carlton and the Marriott, but locals also know where to find it. The restaurant is run

by general manager Jeroen Kuling.

Ronald van Hasenbroek has a wealth of experience behind him: he is a multiple gold medal winner of the Aruba National Culinary Team, has spent 9 years at Chez Mathilde Restaurant, 9 years at Divi Resorts and 4 years as a consultant, 2 of which for the Aruba Wine And Dine (AWD) family, of which Hadicurari and Nos Clubhuis, located right on top of Hadicurari, form part. The quest for culinary excellence runs in his blood and he tries to instill this in his staff.

The new executive chef is planning to raise the culinary level on the menus. Working with fresh fish caught by local fisherman is a pleasure for all.

Lovely Hadicurari has an upstairs neighbor: Nos



Clubhuis, where the local fishermen shoot the breeze, have their morning coffee or afternoon glass of beer. Ronald will also take the kitchen of Nos Clubhuis under his wing as his second project, but this will be at a later stage.

It is a relaxed place, where one can eat a hamburger, the catch of the day or a shrimp basket and down a few cocktails or beers. Open from 7 am until 10 pm it is also a wonderful place for private parties, get-togethers and weddings: "We're already getting quite a few bookings for the coming months," tells Jeroen Kuling proudly. Be-

sides the stunning view, Nos Clubhuis has something really special to offer as well: eating lionfish.

"Lionfish can only be caught by spearfishing by divers – the caught fish are put into a special holding bag, because their spines are poisonous. When cleaned and prepared, the fish is delicious. I love eating it as a ceviche or broiled," says Jeroen. Lionfish are considered a threat to the environment as they have no natural enemies; it is therefore of great importance that they are caught. Volunteer divers catch the lionfish on Aruba.

Talking about the upcoming holiday season, Chef Ronald is planning a 5-course Christmas dinner, which can also be split up as separate options. Reservations for groups of 6 or more people are made with a credit card back-up; on December 31 guests are welcome on a first-come, first-serve base.

"I am looking forward to working at Hadicurari," Ronald sums up. "This challenge is right up my street." Hadicurari with Jeroen and Ronald and a terrific staff are happy to welcome you once again and to make your dining experience unforgettable. □

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scene on Palm Beach is at Sand, at Brickel Bay Beach Club. □

Caribbean & Co. Analysis:

Aruba Tops Digital Marketing Index 2015 and Social Media Rankings!

ORANJESTAD (PRNewswire)

- In addition to being one of the most popular islands to visit in the Caribbean, Aruba ranks the most popular digital destination in the Caribbean -- according to Caribbean & Co., an expert source on Caribbean lifestyle and luxury brands. Caribbean & Co. reports the One happy Island of Aruba ranks No. 1 of 35 Caribbean islands for overall "destination marketing index 2015" and No. 1 of 10 Caribbean islands for Instagram reach, boasting 23,000 followers, double its runner up. The marketing index ranking was derived by a proprietary weighting of various data, including social media followings, website inbound links, 3rd party rankings and more.

"Caribbean destinations like most throughout the globe spend millions each year to attract new and returning tourists to the region. Many of the marketing campaigns are via traditional television and print media, but we are starting to see more marketing activity online," reported Ursula Barzey, founder of Caribbean & Co.

The Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA), who welcomed a record 1.07 million annual stay-over visitors to Aruba in 2014, attributes much of the island's success to digital marketing.

"Our commitment to strategic and savvy digital marketing directly impacts Aruba's GDP, which is more reliant on travel and tourism than any other nation, relative to size, in the world," said Ronella Tjin-Asjoe Croes, CEO of ATA. "Aruba's target audience visits more than 20 websites before booking their vacation, so it is essential for us to maintain a presence throughout that process with a timely, persuasive message at each stage. By engaging the best strategists and leveraging targeted technologies, we can ensure our marketing dollars are spent effectively against desired consumers in-market for vacation travel."

Solidifying its positioning as the most digitally innovative DMMO, the ATA recently launched The Happiness Builder -- a content-rich planning experience where travelers can explore nearly 100 videos featuring adventure, relaxation, romance and cultural activities in Aruba, before creating a personalized "Shortcut to Happiness" video that can be easily shared socially. Create a shortcut on aruba.com/shortcuts.

For more information on the One happy island, visit www.aruba.com. Engage with Aruba via social media at www.facebook.com/ArubaFans or @Aruba on Twitter.

About Aruba

As one of the most revisited destinations in the Caribbean, Aruba -- One happy island -- is an island of contradictions, where pristine turquoise waters collide against the desert-like terrain of the north shore; where peace and relaxation coexist with wild and rugged adventures; where Dutch influence meets American ease and where a diverse history parallels a bright future. Nestled in the southern Caribbean outside the fringes of the hurricane belt, the island is just a two-and-a-half-hour flight from Miami, a four-hour flight from New York City and boasts year-round cooling trade winds with an average 82-degree temperature. Aruba offers beach-lovers, adrenaline junkies, relaxation-seekers and everyone in between a slice of paradise with breathtaking beaches, a booming culinary scene of over 300 restaurants with 25+ located ideally on the water, world-famous festivals and events, exciting land and water activities, art galleries and museums, sumptuous spas, championship golf, exclusive shopping and signature experiences such as cooling off in Conchi, Aruba's natural pool -- accessible only by foot or off-road vehicle. With all-inclusive options, boutique prop-



erties in charming Eagle Beach, high-rise branded resorts in Palm Beach and cosmopolitan city hotels in

Oranjestad, the island of contradictions provides the perfect getaway for both first-time guests and loyal

visitors.

SOURCE: Aruba Tourism Authority.

www.aruba.com. □



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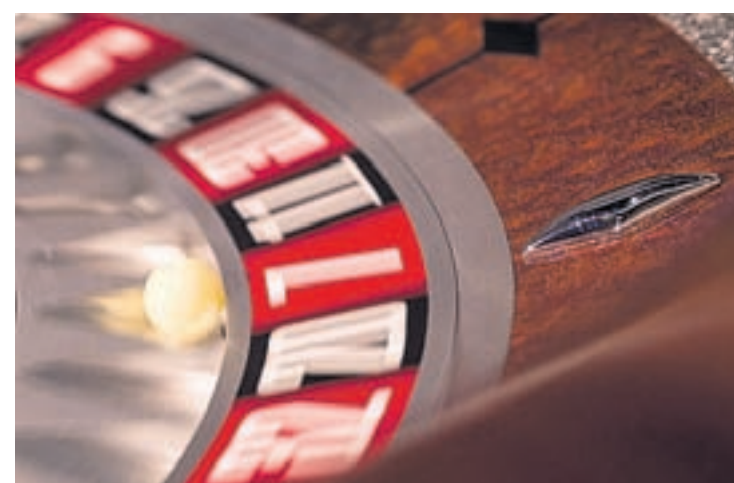
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At press time: NY Mets and KC Royals are tied 1-1
\ of Game 1 of the World Series



Kansas City Royals catcher Salvador Perez, right, talks with starting pitcher Edinson Volquez during the third inning of Game 1 of the Major League Baseball World Series against the New York Mets Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015, in Kansas City, Mo.
Associated Press

Volquez loses father before World Series start

DAVE SKRETTA
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) —

The father of Royals pitcher Edinson Volquez died Tuesday in the Dominican Republic, shortly before his son took the mound to start Game 1 of the World Series against the New York Mets. Two people familiar with the situation told The Associated Press that 63-year-old Danio Volquez died from heart failure. His son was informed of Volquez's passing on the way to the ballpark, where he was scheduled to make his World Series debut.

The people spoke on condition of anonymity Tuesday night because they were not authorized to discuss the matter.

The elder Volquez, a mechanic in the Dominican Republic, introduced his son to the game when he was about 10 years old. Edinson Volquez often returned home to visit his parents, and said not long ago that they were his biggest supporters while trying to make it in the big leagues. □

AGE OLD



Kobe, TD head group of aging, 37-plus ex-All-Stars

This Dec. 19, 2014, file photo shows San Antonio Spurs forward Tim Duncan shooting against Portland Trail Blazers center Joel Freeland, left, during the first half of an NBA basketball game in San Antonio.

Associated Press

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U.S. women roll to 3rd straight world gymnastics title

WILL GRAVES

AP Sports Writer

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP)

— The gap is becoming a canyon. No matter the stakes, the year or the young women with the USA patch on their shimmering leotards, there is the gymnastics' powerhouse constructed and relentlessly maintained by national team coordinator Martha Karolyi and there is everybody else.

And it's not close. Not really close to close.

The U.S. is so steady and

so deep at the moment its competitions feel more like exhibitions. The world championship the Americans won on Tuesday night appeared so easy they were more focused on Karolyi's approval up in the stands than whatever scores the judges felt like handing out.

"We're unstoppable," Gabby Douglas said.

The reigning Olympic gold medalist was kidding, but only a little. The U.S. won its third consecutive world title by delivering four pressure-

resistant rotations around pink-clad SSE Hydro, putting up a total of 181.338, more than five points clear of China and surprise bronze medalist Britain, a blowout in a sport where the differences are often measured in fractions.

"We never just assume we will be on the first place," Karolyi said after the program captured its fifth championship since she took over in 2000. "Only through dedication and hard work, you can get better. That's our philoso-



Team United States pose with the gold medals on the podium after winning the women's team final competition at the World Artistic Gymnastics championships at the SSE Hydro Arena in Glasgow, Scotland, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015.

Associated Press

phy. Hard work, discipline and also high number of repetition which takes patience and can be boring sometimes."

To the point where the girls joked about going on strike after qualifying last Saturday, citing a stretch of nearly three weeks without so much as a day off.

Karolyi acquiesced a little by allowing them to get out and explore Glasgow on Monday. Then it was right back in the gym for another one of those necessary but monotonous workouts that makes doing it in front of the crowd and for the rest of the world seem like a vacation.

Maybe because in a way, it is.

Maggie Nichols, the only American chosen to compete in all four events on a team that includes Douglas, two-time world champion Simone Biles and three-time Olympic medalist Aly Raisman, seemed perfectly at ease during the biggest meet of her life. The 18-year-old calmly blew on

her fingers while waiting to be introduced for uneven bars and she playfully fanned herself at the beginning of an attitude-filled floor exercise befitting of someone whose nickname happens to be "Swaggy Maggie."

Only afterward, when she caught a glimpse of the scoreboard with that familiar American flag at the top, did Nichols let the moment sink in.

"I got the shivers, it was so cool," she said.

She might want to get used to it. Less than 10 months before the flame is lit in Rio, the Americans' five-woman Olympic lineup appears close to set between Nichols, Biles, Douglas and Raisman.

Three years removed from Olympic triumph in London as part of the "Fierce Five," Douglas and Raisman might be getting better. Sporting gold nail polish she bummed from Biles, Douglas was spectacular on uneven bars, her 15.333 the highest of the night. □

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Kobe Bryant heads group of aging, 37-plus ex-All-Stars

CLIFF BRUNT
 AP Sports Writer

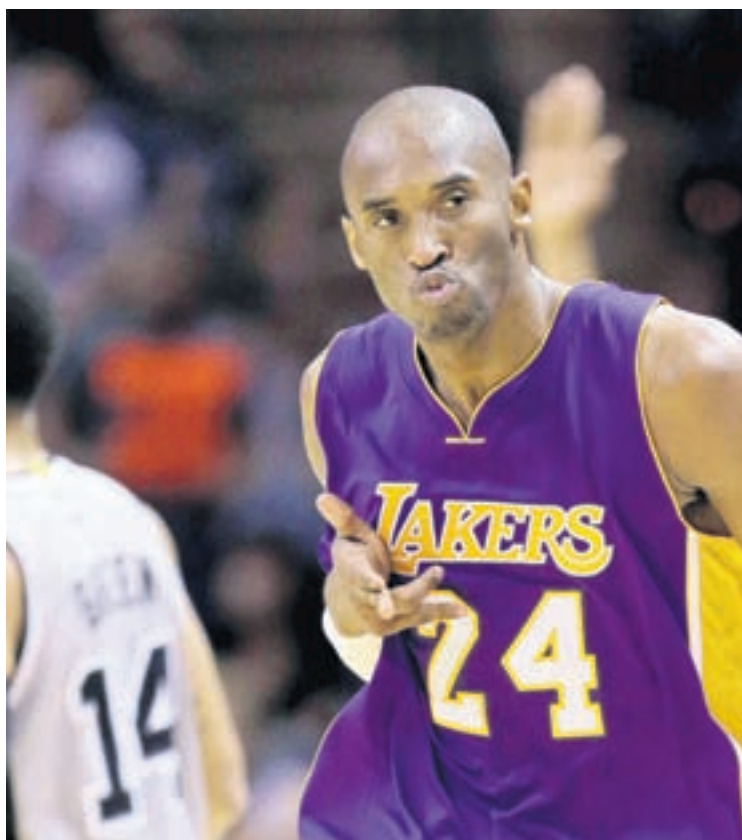
Kobe Bryant is still a Los Angeles Laker. NBA fans are anxiously waiting to see what he has left and wondering if this is his last year. It's probably not wise to count him out just yet — or any of the seven former All-Stars who are at least 37 years old and expected to contribute on the court this year as the NBA tips off the 2015-16 season Tuesday night.

Bryant, the 13th pick in the 1996 draft, is back after missing much of last season with a shoulder injury. He joins Tim Duncan, Dirk Nowitzki, Kevin Garnett, Manu Ginobili, Paul Pierce and Vince Carter — all drafted between 1995 and 1999.

That matches the most former All-Stars at least 37-years old to secure roster spots to start the season since the 2004-2005 campaign, according to STATS. Between them, they have 80 All-Star appearances, 17 NBA titles, five MVP awards and seven finals MVP awards. They enter this season with varying roles:

Kobe Bryant, Los Angeles Lakers

This could be Bryant's final season, depending on how it unfolds. Part of his role will be to mentor D'Angelo Russell, Julius Randle and Jordan Clarkson. Passing the torch and passing up shots are two different things, though. Bryant is the No. 3 scorer in NBA history for a reason. In the 35 games he played last season, his shot attempts per 48 minutes were the third-highest of his career. Lakers coach Byron Scott likely will limit his minutes at times and rest him in some back-



his Dec. 12, 2014, file photo shows Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant (24) celebrating after he scored against the San Antonio Spurs during the second half of an NBA basketball game in San Antonio.

Associated Press

to-backs, but when he's on the floor, odds are Bryant will be looking to score.

Tim Duncan, San Antonio Spurs
 Duncan will turn 40 in April. Old Man River Walk is still a starter, but his minutes will likely be limited again. The Spurs added All-Star LaMarcus Aldridge and 35-year-old former All-Star David West, which should help preserve Duncan for another championship run. He still has great moments,

but at this stage, he's OK with giving up some floor time to be a significant factor in the playoffs.

Kevin Garnett, Minnesota Timberwolves
 Garnett's focus is to set the tone and help No. 1 overall draft pick Karl-Anthony Towns develop. The 39-year-old Garnett can still play — his rebounds per 48 minutes last season were similar to those he posted in his prime. He started all 47 games he played last

season and averaged 20 minutes a contest. He started every game this pre-season, but never played more than 17 minutes.

Dirk Nowitzki, Dallas Mavericks
 Nowitzki was the Mavs' No. 2 scorer last year. Since the top scorer from that team, Monta Ellis, now plays for the Indiana Pacers, Dirk will still carry quite a bit of the load. The Mavericks added Deron Williams and Wesley Matthews in the offseason to help with the scoring, and Chandler Parsons' role will expand in his second year with the team. Nowitzki, 37, averaged just under 30 minutes per game last season. Coach Rick Carlisle wants to trim that to about 26 per contest.

Paul Pierce, Los Angeles Clippers

Pierce, who just turned 38, brings his usual air of confidence to a team that hasn't quite gotten over the hump. The clutch shooter who won a title with Boston in 2008 has plenty of talent around him, so he won't be counted on to make all the big shots. He started 73 games for Washington last season, but he came off the bench in all but one preseason game this season with the Clippers. But if he's on the floor, and gets the opportunity at the end of the game, look for Pierce to take the shot.

Vince Carter, Memphis Grizzlies

The days of Vinsanity and the routine high-flying dunks have passed, and the 38-year-old Carter has settled into a role as a perimeter-shooting reserve. Last year, an ankle injury kept him out of training camp and he had a foot injury during the season. He started just once last year and played 16.5 minutes per game. He comes into this season healthy, but newly acquired Matt Barnes, a slightly younger perimeter shooter, could cut into his minutes.

Manu Ginobili, San Antonio Spurs

Ginobili benefits from having been a sixth man for so many years. He has only started 10 regular-season games the past four seasons and hasn't played more than 24 minutes a contest since the 2010-11 campaign. It's perfect fit for the Spurs, so expect a similar role this year for the 38-year-old wing from Argentina. □

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Johnson rolls over defender, Cardinals beat Ravens 26-18

BOB BAUM

AP Sports Writer

GLENDALE, Arizona (AP) —

Chris Johnson rolled his way to a big play and Joe Flacco couldn't quite respond with one of his own as the Arizona Cardinals escaped with a 26-18 victory over the luckless Baltimore Ravens on Monday night.

Johnson rushed for 122 yards, 62 on a play where he rolled over the belly of a big defender and kept on running to set up a field goal.

Baltimore (1-6) drove to the 4 in the final seconds before Tony Jefferson's interception deep in the end zone clinched the victory for National Football Conference West-leading Arizona (5-2). "A lot of things happened during the game," Cardinals coach Bruce Arians said. "Good, bad and one ugly one, but we finished and made a great play at the end."

Arizona led 26-10 before Asa Jackson's blocked a punt to set up Joe Flacco's 1-yard touchdown pass to Kyle Juszczyk. The 2-point conversion pass to Nick Boyle made it an eight-point game with 4:26 to play.

Baltimore got the ball back and Flacco quickly moved the team downfield before the final ill-fated throw.

"The punt block and all of a sudden you let them in," Arizona's Carson Palmer said, "but that's what you want on 'Monday Night Foot-



Arizona Cardinals running back Chris Johnson (23) runs for a touchdown as Baltimore Ravens defensive end Carl Davis (94) looks on during the first half of an NFL football game, Monday, Oct. 26, 2015, in Glendale, Ariz.

ball.' We made it a game at the end."

The eight-point loss was the most one-sided of the season for the Ravens.

Johnson also ran 26 yards for a touchdown. The 30-year-old running back, signed

late in training camp after recovering from a gunshot wound during the offseason, topped 100 yards for the third time this season and didn't even play in the fourth quarter. The last Arizona player to do that was Edgerrin James in 2007.

Palmer completed 20 of 29 passes for 275 yards and two touchdowns. Flacco was 26 for 40 for 252 yards, with a touchdown and that one interception. The Ravens' Justin Forsett had a 14-yard touchdown run but finished with only 36 yards

in 12 carries.

A 26-10 lead seemed comfortable before Bryant burst up the middle to block Drew Butler's punt to set up the final Ravens touchdown.

The play of the night came in the third quarter, when Johnson hit the line and was pulled down, but he came to rest on the belly of 6-foot-1, 335-pound Brandon Williams. Johnson's knee or elbow didn't touch, so he alertly got up and kept running to the 4. The play set up Chandler Catanzaro's second 21-yard field goal, making it a two-possession game at 20-10.

After Arizona scored again, Catanzaro's try for the conversion bounced off the right upright and was no good, setting the stage for the tight finish.

The only turnover of night, before Jefferson's interception, led to a touchdown that put the Cardinals up 14-10 at the half and Arizona never trailed again. Baltimore, leading 10-7, forced a punt late in the second quarter.

Justin Bethel, a Pro Bowl player on special teams the last two years, stripped the ball from punt returner Jeremy Ross' hands and recovered at the Ravens 25. Penalties gave Arizona a series of chances inside the 5 and, finally, Palmer threw 3 yards to Michael Floyd for the score to put Arizona up 10-7 with 1:01 left in the half. □

Associated Press

NHL Capsules

Toews, Blackhawks beat slumping Ducks 1-0 in OT

The Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Jonathan Toews scored 51 seconds into overtime and Corey Crawford made 39 saves as the Chicago Blackhawks beat the Anaheim Ducks 1-0 on Monday night in a rematch of last season's Western Conference finals.

Crawford earned his second straight shutout and No. 14 for his career as the Blackhawks closed out a perfect 4-0 homestand. They also beat Tampa Bay 1-0 in overtime on Saturday night on Toews' first goal of the season.

Taking advantage of the open ice for the NHL's new 3-on-3 overtime, Toews skated in and beat Frederik Andersen over his left shoulder.

The Ducks were shut out for the second straight game and became the first NHL team since the New York Americans in 1930-31 to be shut out five times in their first eight games of the sea-

son. Andersen finished with 23 stops.

ISLANDERS 4, FLAMES 0

NEW YORK (AP) — Jaroslav Halak stopped 29 shots for his second shutout in three starts and Frans Nielsen scored twice as New York cruised past Calgary. Mikhail Grabovski and Cal Clutterbuck also scored and Kyle Okposo and Nikolay Kulemin each had two assists to help the Islanders improve to 4-1-1 at home this season.

Halak, making his fourth start, also had a shutout at Columbus last Tuesday night.

Grabovski beat Flames goaltender Joni Ortio with a snap shot on the power play with just under 6 minutes left in the second for a 1-0 lead. The Islanders then scored three in the third, with Nielsen make it 2-0 about 5 1/2 minutes into the period, and later capping the scoring with 1:50 left.

The Flames, coming off a

4-1 defeat at the New York Rangers the previous night, lost for the seventh time in nine games this season.

COYOTES 4, MAPLE LEAFS 3

TORONTO (AP) — Max Domi and Shane Doan had power-play goals in the first period as Arizona held on to beat Toronto.

Kyle Chipchura added a power-play goal in the third for the Coyotes (5-3-1), while Klas Dahlbeck also scored for Phoenix, which topped the Leafs (1-5-2) for a third straight time dating back to last season.

Mike Smith made 24 saves to improve to 4-2-1 on the season.

Shawn Matthias, James van Riemsdyk and Morgan Rielly had the Toronto goals while James Reimer made 20 saves for his first regulation loss of the season.

Rielly got the Leafs to within one at 17:34 of the third with Reimer pulled for an extra attacker, but Toronto was unable to find the equalizer. □



Chicago Blackhawks center Artem Anisimov, left, and Anaheim Ducks center Ryan Kesler, right, battle for a loose puck during the first period of an NHL hockey game Monday, Oct. 26, 2015, in Chicago.

Associated Press

Federer eases past Kukushkin in Swiss Indoors 1st round

BASEL, Switzerland (AP) —

Roger Federer eased to a 6-1, 6-2 first-round win at his hometown Swiss Indoors on Tuesday against Mikhail Kukushkin of Kazakhstan.

Top-seeded Federer, a six-time champion at Basel, took just 55 minutes to complete victory over 64th-ranked Kukushkin.

Federer created 13 break-point chances and took four of them to clinch his first win in more than five weeks.

Since winning two Davis Cup singles rubbers against the Netherlands, also played on indoor hard courts in Switzerland, Federer lost his opening Shanghai Masters match against Albert Ramos-Vinolas of Spain.

Federer's Round of 16 op-



Switzerland's Roger Federer thanks the fans after winning his first round match against Kazakhstan's Mikhail Kukushkin at the Swiss Indoors tennis tournament at the St. Jakobshalle in Basel, Switzerland, on Tuesday, October 27, 2015.

Associated Press

ponent on Thursday will be Philipp Kohlschreiber of Germany, who beat Jerzy Janowicz of Poland, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.

Also Tuesday, sixth-seeded John Isner of the United States fired down 19 aces in beating Ernests Gulbis of Latvia, 6-3, 6-4.

Eighth-seeded David Goffin of Belgium, runner-up against Federer last year, rallied to beat Andreas Seppi of Italy, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria earned a second-round match against Rafael Nadal by beating Sergiy Stakhovsky of Ukraine, 6-3, 6-4, and Croatian Dusan Lajovic advanced when another Ukrainian Alexandr Dolgoplov retired when the score was 6-4, 2-0. □

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SAT 2:05 | 4:35 | 7:05 | 9:35 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 2:05 | 4:35 | 7:05 | 9:35

CHRIS J. MURRAY | BRIT SHAW
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY THE GHOST DIMENSION R
MON-THURS 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40
FRI 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40 | 11:50
SAT 3:10 | 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40 | 11:50
SUN & HOL 3:10 | 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40

BRADLEY COOPER | SIENNA MILLER
BURNT R
MON-THURS 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25
FRI 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25 | 11:45
SAT 2:25 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25 | 11:45
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MON-THURS 5:45 | 8:45
FRI 5:45 | 8:45 | 10:45
SAT 2:45 | 5:45 | 8:45 | 10:45
SUN & HOL 2:45 | 5:45 | 8:45

JACK BLACK | DYLAN MINNETTE
Goosebumps 3D PG
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 4:40 | 7:00
FRI 4:40 | 7:00
SAT 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00
SUN & HOL 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00

ALSO SHOWING!

LEVI MILLER | HUGH JACKMAN
PAN PG
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-FRI 4:30 | 7:00
SAT 2:05 | 4:30 | 7:00
SUN & HOL 2:05 | 4:30 | 7:00

EMILY BLUNT | BENICIO DEL TORO
SICARIO R
MON-THURS 9:25
FRI-SAT 9:25 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 9:25

MIA WASIKOWSKA | JESSICA CHASTAIN
CRIMSON PEAK R
MON-THURS 9:20
FRI 9:20 | 12:00
SAT 9:20 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 9:20

ADAM SANDLER | ANDY SAMBERG
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2 PG
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-FRI 4:30 | 6:35 | 8:40
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"Deep down we all want to be desired"

As a Medical Anthropologist I am fascinated when I see a culture change or adopt a holiday. Here in Aruba as in most of Latin America, November 1st is All Saint's Day when we visit the graves of departed family members. We clean the tombs, decorate the graves with flowers, pray and remember our departed loved ones.

The Mexican and Filipino celebration of the memory of their deceased ancestors called El Día de los Muertos, or The Day of the Dead also occurs on November 1 and November 2, and is coinciding with the similar Roman Catholic celebrations of All Saints Day and All Souls Day. Yet, we need to realize that "A rose by any other name is still a rose". All of these celebrations are reflections of rituals celebrating the lives of our ancestors. Our Meso-american ancestors have performed these rituals for at least 3,000 years; where it was common practice to enact rituals to symbolize death and rebirth.

We appreciate that some of us do not need

much rationale to party, but the adoption of Halloween on the eve of All Saint's Day has many social critics denouncing the adoption as Americanization influences. Perhaps, but cultures do not adopt anything unless an emotional need is being satisfied.

Halloween observed on October 31, the eve of All Saints' Day is based on a medieval European concept of death, and is populated by demons, usually female witches and other images of terror. Our Indo-Hispanic custom of All Saint's Day or The Day of the Dead, in contrast, is distinctly different. Our celebration demonstrates strong sense of love and respect for one's ancestors; celebrates the continuance of life, family relationships, community solidarity; positive concepts! Then why has our culture so quickly embraced the ancient British and Irish Celtic festival of Samhain eve an occasion for one of the ancient fire festivals when huge bonfires were set on hilltops to frighten away evil spirits?

Professionally, in our clinic I witness endless medical complaints rooted in emotional problems. The psychologist, Carl Jung stated that you have two overriding tasks in your life; in the first half of your life you need to become comfortable with your sexuality and in the second half of your life you need to accept your mortality. All human activity is explained as work being done in one of these categories. I explain the

rapid adoption of Halloween by Latin Americans as an opportunity to symbolically overlay our dominant emotions, sex and death.

Besides the adoption, we are also experiencing that increasingly Halloween is a holiday for adults. Adults now represent up to sixty five percent of Halloween costume sales, a noticeable shift compared with years past. Also, we are observing that the costumes selling the quickest are those that are sexy adult Halloween costumes and games.

Most adults love Halloween because it is a great excuse to let your imagination go wild. Deep down we all want to be desired, to be seen as sexy and attractive. All that dressing up, play-acting behind the costume mask is liberating for many. The mystery of the mask allows people to do things they normally wouldn't do, without having to worry about the consequences such as gossip, rejection or a tarnished reputation. If no one knows who the person behind the mask is, why would they care about what people think of their actions?

Unfortunately, one holiday a year does not provide all the opportunity to learn and for our soul to grow. The path to true health is a journey to understanding who we are. In balance or health the opposites live together in us in harmony. Our existence on earth is experienced as yin and yang, up and down, light and darkness, love and power,

good and evil, masculine and feminine, and so on.

In our souls exists all that we human beings have experienced over and over again since the very beginning of human existence on Earth, and this wisdom becomes visible through several expressions including dreams, art, myths and in many cases a physical illness. When people are ill, there is for them an opportunity to find out what is going on deep in their souls because, frequently, a physical illness is an expression of a wound in the soul.

All feelings, sensation, including pain and medical symptoms are expressions of energy. Energy in your body is either free flowing and balanced or blocked and painful. One of the most powerful tools of the Healing Spirit is acupuncture that uses mainly fine needles, to stimulate points on the body to relieve pain and associated emotional block. There is considerable medical evidence that acupuncture is effective against nausea, pain, psychological, respiratory and digestive problems.

Get The Point! I heard that in New York City the Museum of Sex is hosting a masquerade party that includes an exclusive after-hours tour of the museum. Partygoers will also enjoy an open bar, dancing, live entertainment and a deluxe gift bag. Masquerade guests are encouraged to dress up in sexy costume and masks will be available at the door for anyone in need. You might think it's

a time where people put on masks and dance the night away. You're right, but there is much more to Halloween than meets the eye. Are you looking for a more lasting way to help you soul grow away from pain? Call to make an appointment. □ □

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an **Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.)** having studied in **Shanghai, China**; a **Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.)**, a fellow member of the **Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.)**, the **Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT)**, a **Rejuvenating Cell Therapist** and specializes in **Anti-Aging Medicine**, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: **VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270, Web Site: www.vianaheal.com**

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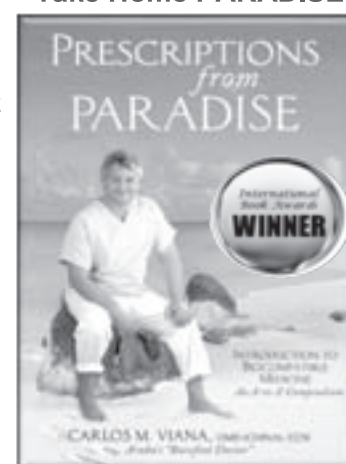
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Oracle to build high school on its Silicon Valley campus

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Technology Writer
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Oracle founder Larry Ellison already owns an island in Hawaii. Now, his company is building a high school next to its Silicon Valley headquarters to help fulfill Ellison's desire to teach students more about technology and problem-solving. The plan unveiled Tuesday at an Oracle customer conference calls for the business software maker to complete the 64,000-square-foot school by August 2017.

Although it will be owned by one of the world's biggest technology companies, the school isn't going to be called "Oracle High." Instead, it will be known as Design Tech, or "d.tech," a public school approved last year.

The campus being built by Oracle will accommodate up to 550 students and 30 teachers in the shadow of Oracle's towering office in Redwood Shores, California, about 25 miles south of San Francisco. The school will be free and open to any student living in California.

Since starting Oracle Corp.



This June 18, 2012 file photo, shows the Oracle headquarters in Redwood City, Calif. Oracle founder Larry Ellison already owns an island in Hawaii.

38 years ago, Ellison has amassed an estimated fortune of \$54 billion that has enabled him to buy most of the Hawaiian island of Lanai, own elaborate homes around the world and bankroll two victories in sailing's premier race, the America's Cup.

But Ellison isn't financing Design Tech. Oracle is footing the entire bill, though the company isn't disclos-

ing how much it expects to spend.

Oracle co-CEO Safra Catz stressed the company wouldn't be getting involved if Ellison hadn't sketched out a vision to create a school where "students learn to think."

Although Oracle will own the high school, the company won't be involved in the curriculum. Design Tech gained Oracle's financial support because it "reflects

Larry's vision for a unique high school founded on principles we believe in: innovation, creativity, problem-solving and design-thinking," Catz said.

Oracle's commitment to Design Tech comes less than a week after Facebook's billionaire CEO Mark Zuckerberg, and his wife, Priscilla Chan, announced plans to finance a school for pre-school through eighth-grade students in

one of Silicon Valley's few least affluent communities, East Palo Alto. The Primary School will provide health care services in addition to educational instruction for up to 700 students.

Zuckerberg and Chan also have given \$100 million to schools in New Jersey and pledged to donate another \$120 million to other schools located in low-income communities in the San Francisco Bay Area. □

Associated Press

European leaders look to boost financing for startups

PARIS (AP) — The leaders of France, Germany and the European Union's executive body have praised new partnerships between private, public and European funds to improve access to financing for startups in an effort to boost the digital economy across the continent.

French President Francois Hollande, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker met with online entrepreneurs at a conference on the digital economy at

the Elysee palace in Paris on Tuesday. Juncker has made the development of a European digital market a priority of his leadership of the Commission, the EU's executive branch. Hollande and Merkel are looking to push the idea forward as EU member states remain divided over proposed reforms of copyright and data protection laws. "Our goal is to make from the (European) interior market a digital market, so that we can be competitive in the global competition", Merkel said. □



A reporter takes a picture of German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande at a press conference ending the France Germany Online Conference at the Elysee Palace in Paris, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015.

Associated Press

Stocks tick lower on mixed earnings, oil

MARLEY JAY
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks slipped Tuesday afternoon after several U.S. companies delivered disappointing results and forecasts. Energy companies fell more than the rest of the market as the price of crude oil hit

average fell 41.62 points, or 0.2 percent, to 17,581.43. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 5.29 points, or 0.3 percent, to 2,065.89. The Nasdaq composite fell 4.56 points, or 0.1 percent, to 5,030.15. The price of U.S. oil fell almost 2 percent and

cancer drugs Opdivo and Yervoy improved. Pfizer rose 83 cents, or 2.4 percent, to \$34.99 and Bristol-Myers added \$2.25, or 3.5 percent, to \$66.80. Among other stocks making big moves: — Ford reported improved sales of its new F-150 pick-



Trader Greg Mulligan works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stocks slipped Tuesday afternoon after several U.S. companies delivered disappointing results and forecasts.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

two-month lows. The market made only small moves as the Federal Reserve started a two-day meeting to discuss interest rates. That marked a pause after a rally this month that has wiped out much of a steep loss from August. Investors are still concerned about the slow pace of the economic recovery in the U.S. and are wondering how the economy and the market will react when interest rates eventually start to rise. Few expect the Fed to raise interest rates this year. And while ultra-low rates tend to be favorable for stocks and bonds, many investors would like to see the uncertainty over interest rate policy resolved. "We don't think there's going to be enough evidence between now and the end of the year to support a move by the Fed," said Patrick Maldari, a senior fixed income investment specialist at Aberdeen Asset Management. "They just have not had the ammunition. The economic data continues to be weak." The Dow Jones industrial

reached its lowest level since the market turmoil of late August. Oil prices had recovered some of their losses from this summer as companies cut back on production. Energy analyst Jim Ritterbusch said a recent increase in oil stockpiles, the result of decreased refining production, has sent oil prices back down. Ritterbusch says he thinks crude will slip back to its August lows of around \$38 a barrel and stay there through the end of 2015. Energy stocks declined along with the price of oil. Chesapeake Energy fell 41 cents, or 5.8 percent, to \$6.72, while Marathon Oil was down 48 cents, or 2.7 percent, to \$17.11 and Anadarko Petroleum lost \$3.71, or 5.4 percent, to \$65.29. Health care was the only sector to rise after some of the world's largest drug companies announced strong results. Pfizer raised its profit forecast after its third-quarter results came in better than expected, while Bristol-Myers said sales of key new medicines like the

up truck, but its net income fell short of Wall Street estimates. Ford fell 79 cents, or 5 percent, to \$14.89. — UPS slumped after the package delivery company surprised investors by saying its revenue dipped in the third quarter. The stock fell \$3.08, or 2.9 percent, to \$103.10. — Alibaba, the Chinese e-commerce giant, said it got a big boost from mobile sales in the third quarter. The results reassured investors about Alibaba's performance while prospects for the Chinese economy remain uncertain. Alibaba rose \$3.09, or 4 percent, to \$79.44. Yahoo, which owns a big stake in Alibaba, picked up 90 cents, or 2.7 percent, to \$34.30. Earnings continued to pour in after the close of regular trading. Apple's results were stronger than expected and the tech giant said it expects to surpass last year's record of 74.5 million iPhones sold in the December quarter. The stock rose \$3.21, or 2.8 percent, to \$117.76 in late electronic trading. □

Sales of new medicines boost 3Q results for US drugmakers

LINDA A. JOHNSON
AP Business Writer

Growing revenue for promising new medicines for cancer, heart disease and other serious conditions helped U.S. drugmakers improve results after several disappointing quarters and beat Wall Street expectations. Buoyed by the stronger third-quarter results and rising prospects, Pfizer Inc., Merck & Co. and Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. raised their 2015 profit forecasts, and their share prices rose as the broader markets declined. Switzerland's Novartis struggled, though, weighed down by lower sales in its Alcon eye care unit and other factors.

All four drugmakers were hurt by unfavorable exchange rates cutting the value of foreign sales, which are made in local currencies, by at least 7 percent. Excluding that, sales were up somewhat — mainly due to strong launches of new drugs that are significant medical advances. That, and the companies' planned launches of new drugs in the next several years, bodes well for their futures. —PFIZER: Including the currency hit, revenue edged down 2 percent for Pfizer, which is rebounding after five years of generic competition slashing its revenue. The New York company still posted \$12.09 billion in revenue, beating the average Street forecast of \$11.49 billion.

The maker of pain and fibromyalgia treatment Lyrica said net income dropped 20 percent to \$2.13 billion. Adjusted earnings came to 60 cents per share, trouncing the 51 cents analysts expected.

Pfizer raised its adjusted annual profit forecast to \$2.16 to \$2.20 per share, its second increase since buying Hospira.

—MERCK: Merck & Co. more than doubled third-quarter profit, its best performance in a while, though heavy cost-cut-

ting was the main reason. Net income totaled \$1.83 billion, or 64 cents per share, and adjusted income hit 96 cents per share. Analysts expected 91 cents.

Revenue was \$10.07 billion, down 4.6 percent including the foreign exchange hit and lost sales from the consumer health products unit it sold last year.

Merck's Keytruda, part of the hot new class of drugs that fight cancer by harnessing the immune system, posted sales of \$160 million. Januvia and combination pill Janumet, among the most popular Type 2 diabetes drugs, boosted combined sales growth of 10 percent, to \$1.58 billion.

The world's fourth-biggest drugmaker, based in Kenilworth, New Jersey, raised its full-year adjusted profit forecast to \$3.55 to \$3.60 per share, from \$3.45 to \$3.55.

—BMS: Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. posted revenue of \$4.07 billion, up 4 percent and above the \$3.85 billion analysts expected. Surging sales of key new medicines — Eliquis, melanoma and lung cancer drug Opdivo and hepatitis C pill Daklinza — led the way. However, net income dipped 2.1 percent to \$706 million, or 42 cents per share, due to lower revenue from alliance partners and double-digit increases in spending on research and advertising. Adjusted earnings per share came to 39 cents a share; analysts expected 35 cents.

New York-based Bristol-Myers, the world's 15th biggest drugmaker, raised its adjusted profit forecast for 2015, to \$1.85 to \$1.90 per share, from \$1.70 to \$1.80.

—NOVARTIS: The world's largest drugmaker Novartis said net income fell 42 percent to \$1.81 billion, largely on the sale of its hepatitis drug unit a year earlier and provisions for legal settlements and fees. □

Apple beats earnings estimates, issues healthy forecast

BRANDON BAILEY

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Defying skeptics on Wall Street, Apple says it plans to keep setting records for selling new iPhones around the world.

The giant tech company reported quarterly earnings Tuesday that beat analysts' estimates, while forecasting healthy iPhone sales during the upcoming holidays. Apple also said sales nearly doubled in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan during the last quarter, de-

spite concerns that China's economy is slowing.

And in a closely watched indicator, Apple issued a forecast for the upcoming December quarter that suggests it will slightly surpass last year's record of 74.5 million iPhones sold during the crucial holiday season.

"We think we can grow iPhone (sales) during the December quarter," Chief Financial Officer Luca Maestri told The Associated Press.

Apple reported \$11.1 billion

in net income for the quarter ended Sept. 26, up 30 percent from a year earlier, while sales rose 22 percent to \$51.5 billion. Earnings amounted to \$1.96 cents a share.

Analysts surveyed by FactSet expected Apple to report revenue of \$50.9 billion and adjusted earnings of \$1.89 a share.

Apple's stock price was up almost 2 percent in after-hours trading.

Apple said it sold 48 million iPhones during the September quarter, which includ-

ed two days of sales for its newest iPhone models, the 6S and 6S Plus. That's about what analysts expected.

But its forecast for the December quarter may please investors more. Apple's stock has been dogged for months by worries that the company might have difficulty maintaining its torrid growth.

Apple relies heavily on iPhone sales, which contribute more than two-thirds of its revenue. Overall smartphone sales are slowing around the world, as most

consumers in developed nations already have one.

While it remains the world's biggest corporation by stock-market value, Apple shares have been off about 15 percent from a mid-July peak of \$132.97.

iPhone sales skyrocketed last year after Apple introduced new models with bigger screens in September 2014.

Analysts have questioned whether the company can duplicate that success with the latest iPhones introduced last month. □

How Comcast wants to meter heavy Internet users

TALI ARBEL

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) —

Most home Internet service providers offer unlimited data, but cable giant Comcast is moving in the opposite direction.

It's started charging heavy Internet users extra in more parts of the country.

The reason? A small but growing number of consumers are skipping cable subscriptions and doing their TV-watching over the Internet instead. So finding a way to charge for heavier Internet use could bolster Comcast's revenue as the ranks of its cable customers shrink.

Comcast actually used to impose a monthly 250 gigabyte data cap on its customers, but ended it in May 2012 to experiment with alternative ways of managing bandwidth. That August, it capped monthly

data use for Nashville, Tennessee, customers at 300 GB; going over the limit cost \$10 for every 50 GB. The company launched a similar plan in Tucson, Arizona, that October — you got 300 GB for a base plan, 600 GB if you signed up for a faster and more expensive connection.

By December 2013, Comcast had rolled out the Nashville system to Atlanta and a handful of smaller markets, many in the South. It also offered a slow Internet plan of 3 megabits per second that gave you a \$5 credit if you used 5GB or less each month, and charged you \$1 for each gigabyte of data over 5 GB.

This month, Comcast added a tweak as it expanded the cap into Miami, Fort Lauderdale and the Keys in Florida: Customers can now pay an additional \$30 a month for unlimited



A pedestrian walks past the Comcast building in Rockefeller Center, in New York. Comcast reported quarterly financial results on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015.

(AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

data. (In Atlanta, it's \$35 a month.) At this point, roughly 12 percent of Comcast territory is subject to "usage-based pricing," MoffettNathanson analyst Craig Moffett estimates.

The change comes as Comcast's Internet customers grow and cable slips. In the third quarter, Comcast said Tuesday, it lost 48,000 TV customers while adding 320,000 Internet customers.

Revenue rose 8.3 percent to \$18.7 billion in the July-September period, while net income dropped 23 percent to \$2 billion because of a tax gain from last year. □

Twitter 3Q report illustrates challenges for new CEO

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Twitter's losses are mounting as the messaging service struggles to expand its audience under recently hired CEO Jack Dorsey.

The challenges facing Dorsey came into sharper focus in a third-quarter report released Tuesday.

The numbers covered the three months ending in September,

a stretch when Dorsey was serving as interim CEO before Twitter hired him on a

permanent basis.

Twitter ended the period with a core audience of 307 million active users, an increase of just 3 million from June.

That wasn't much better than a gain of 2 million users in the previous quarter, a letdown that led to the departure of Twitter's previous CEO, Dick Costolo.

Revenue climbed 58 percent from last year to \$569 million.

Twitter still lost \$132 million,

extending the company's uninterrupted history of losses since Dorsey co-founded the service nearly a decade ago.

The San Francisco company has now accumulated losses of about \$2 billion.

The evidence of Twitter's ongoing malaise reversed a recent rally in Twitter's stock, which came as investors grew optimistic that things would rapidly improve under Dorsey's leadership.

Twitter's stock plunged \$4.07, or 13 percent, to \$27.27 in extended trading after the report came out. Although it remains among the Internet's most popular and influential means of communications, Twitter has seen its user growth slow down since its initial public offering of stock two years ago.

Facebook and other rival services have been faring far better over that time.

Dorsey has vowed to come

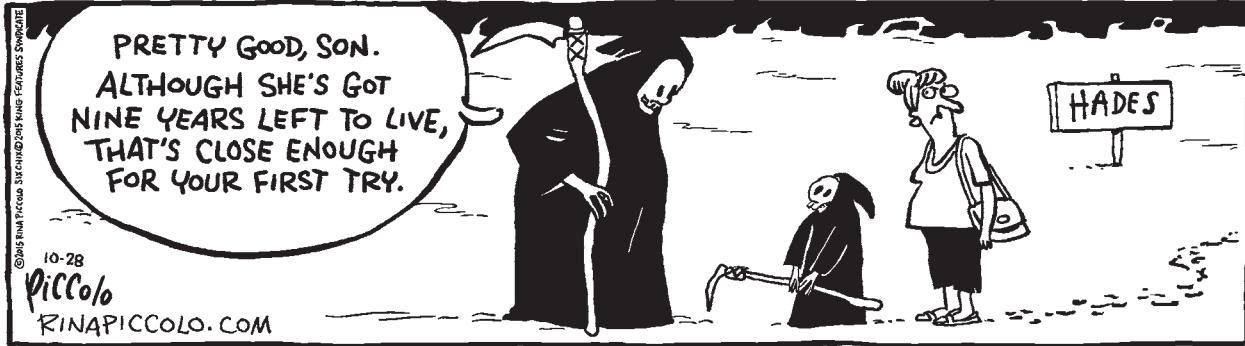
up new ways to make Twitter more appealing and easier to use for people who have been turned off by the service's chronological presentation of posts and sometimes-confusing quirks, such as its reliance on hashtags.

Twitter recently rolled out one of its biggest changes in years with a new channel that bundles video, photos and links to news stories to make it easier for people to find. □

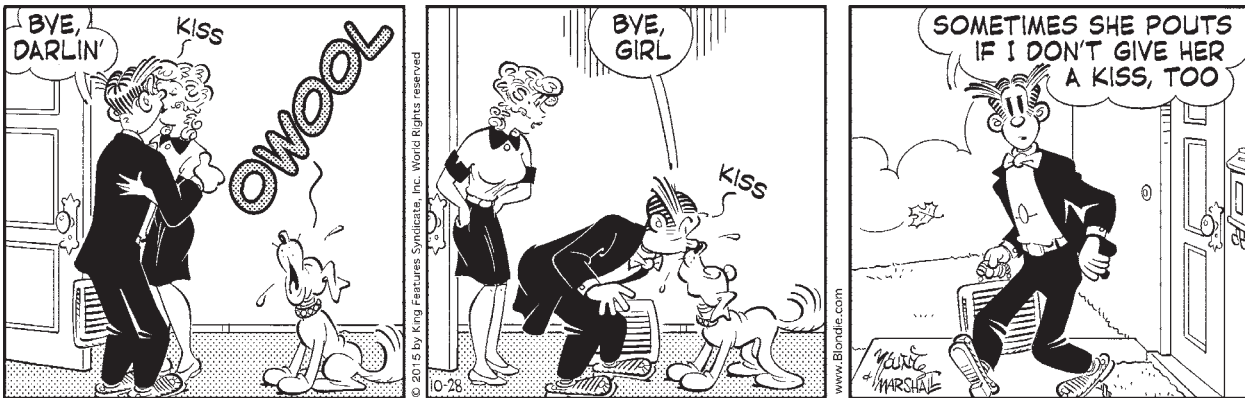
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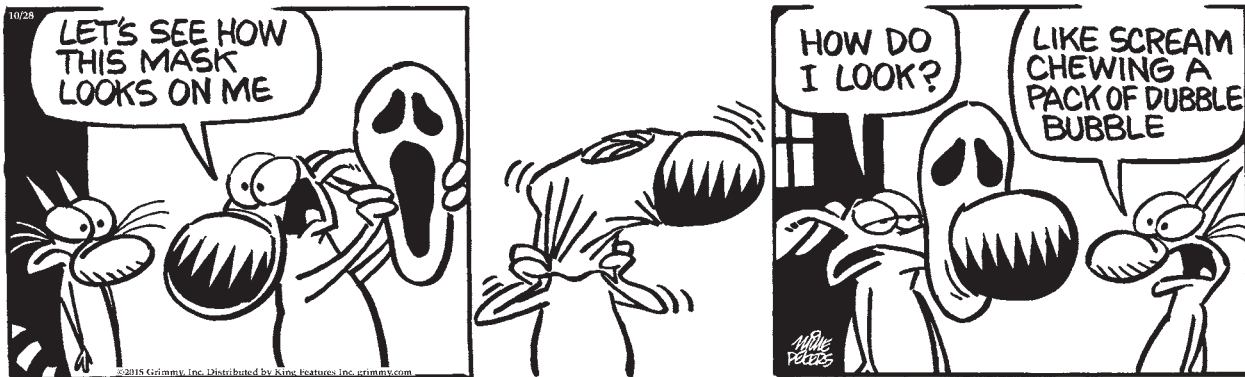
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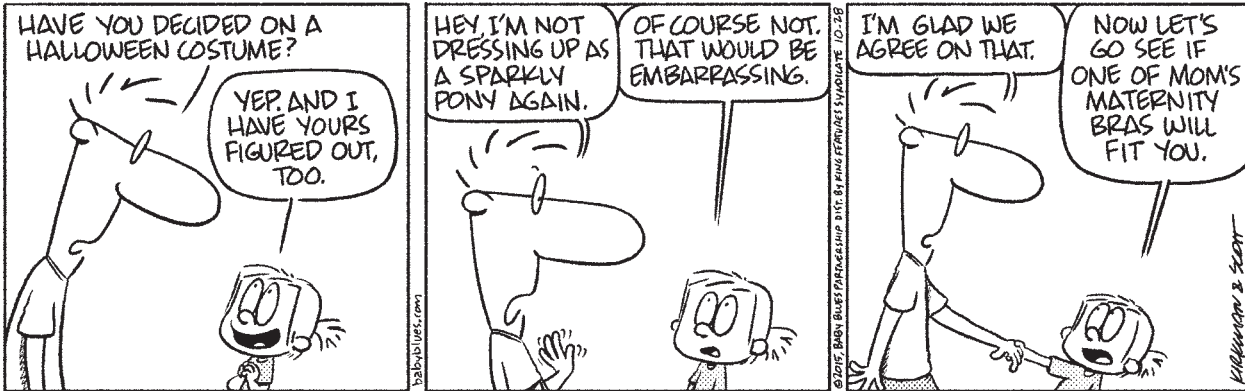
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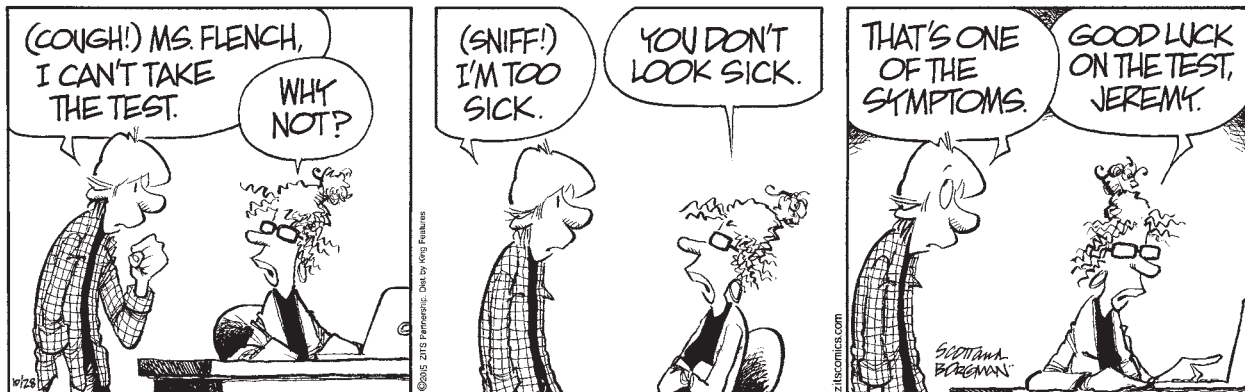
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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	8	6	7	3	9			
		2			6	5	3	
		3			1			8
	9					8		1
8							4	3
6							5	
	5					9		
		4			3			
			2	8				

Difficulty Level ★★

10/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

1	2	4	7	3	6	8	5	9
5	8	3	2	9	4	1	6	7
6	9	7	1	5	8	2	3	4
2	6	9	3	8	5	7	4	1
8	3	1	4	2	7	6	9	5
4	7	5	9	6	1	3	2	8
3	5	8	6	7	9	4	1	2
9	4	6	8	1	2	5	7	3
7	1	2	5	4	3	9	8	6

ACROSS

- 1 Fold
- 5 Fence openings
- 10 Hotels
- 14 Like gooey cinnamon rolls
- 15 Lay ___; put on the shelf
- 16 Banister
- 17 "My Country, 'Tis of ___"
- 18 Insincere words
- 20 Layer of turf
- 21 "Dear me!"
- 22 Lubricated
- 23 Fine fabric for a tablecloth
- 25 Light brown
- 26 Beautiful
- 28 Pair of small drums
- 31 Desert refuge
- 32 Runs one's words together
- 34 Doggy doc
- 36 Smooch
- 37 Grand or spinet
- 38 Greek "B"
- 39 Building annex
- 40 Swats
- 41 Liquid part of the blood
- 42 Solar ___; sun and planets
- 44 Head lice areas
- 45 Womanizer
- 46 Peruvian beast
- 47 Kareem ___-Jabbar
- 50 Injure
- 51 Expert
- 54 ___ with; write to
- 57 "It Came ___ a Midnight Clear"
- 58 Barber's focus
- 59 Harmony
- 60 Celebration
- 61 Catch sight of
- 62 Actress ___ Moorehead
- 63 Some of Keats' poems

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21					22			
23				24					25			
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29				30					31			
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47				48					49			
50				51					52			
53				54					55			
56				57					58			
59				60					61			
62				63					64			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

10/28/15

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

DIE	SEALS	OFFA
UTAH	HANOI	LIEN
DICE	OUTON	DRAT
SHREDDING	HERS	
MODE	UMA	
BRAINY	POLITICS	
RESTS	MADAS	TAP
ALPS	DINER	SANE
TAE	SINGS	COLON
SYNOPSIS	COILED	
BAT	PULL	
SOSO	ABSURDITY	
THAI	NULLS	NOON
OILS	CLOSE	GARB
POET	EBBED	DEC

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10/28/15

- 38 Sun's ray
- 40 No longer fresh
- 41 Con game
- 43 Go quickly
- 44 Playground equipment
- 46 Warrior's spear
- 47 Throb painfully
- 48 Crushing vipers
- 49 Faucet problem
- 50 Complain
- 52 Learn by ___; memorize
- 53 Singles
- 55 Hot tub
- 56 Cribbage piece
- 57 Eerie saucer, for short

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Spacecraft diving deep into Saturn moon's erupting water jet

MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida

(AP) — The Cassini spacecraft is about to get an icy shower as it orbits Saturn.

On Wednesday, Cassini will storm through a jet of water vapor and frozen particles erupting from the south pole of Enceladus, one of Saturn's many moons. The spacecraft will zoom within 30 miles (50 kilometers) of the pole, providing the best sampling yet of its underground ocean.

Cassini will be traveling 19,000 mph (30,580 kph), so it should take just an instant to penetrate the plume.

A global liquid ocean is believed to exist beneath the frozen crust of 300-mile (500-kilometer)-wide Enceladus. Wednesday's dive will be the deepest one yet through the continuous plumes, making the enterprise a bit riskier than usual. Launched in 1997, Cassini is not equipped to detect life, but scientists hope Wednesday's flyby will provide clues as to the possibility of it.

NASA program scientist Curt Niebur considers Wednesday's feat "a very big step in a new era of exploring ocean worlds in our solar system."

Other probable extraterrestrial ocean worlds: Saturn's largest moon, Titan; Jupi-



This July 27, 2015 photo made by the Cassini spacecraft shows the moon Enceladus orbiting the planet Saturn.

ter's moons, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto; and possibly dwarf planets Pluto and Ceres, among others. "These are worlds with huge bodies of liquid water underneath their surfaces, bodies with great potential to provide oases for life throughout our solar system," Niebur said Monday. "It's a journey in understanding about what makes a world habitable and where we might find life, and where we might

one day live ourselves." Researchers are eager to nail down the chemical makeup of Enceladus' plumes. They also hope to confirm whether the eruptions are tight columns or curtains of jets running along fractures in the south pole. In particular, the spacecraft will be looking to identify hydrogen molecules in the plume, which would help quantify hydrothermal activity occurring on the

ocean floor. That, in turn, would help characterize the potential for life in this slightly salty ocean. If life exists — and more missions would be needed for confirmation — it might range from microscopic algae to little fish, the scientists said. The action unfolds late Wednesday morning Eastern Time; it will take several hours to confirm success and start returning the information.

Spilker expects it will take a week to get a quick look at the scientific data and many more weeks for a proper analysis.

Close-up pictures of Enceladus should be ready much sooner. Cassini will snap pictures of Enceladus before, during and after the close encounter. The images will be smeared because of Cassini's speed, but the team hopes to remove the blurs and have some dramatic shots by Thursday night or Friday. Saturnshine — akin to our moonshine — will provide the only lighting for the cameras.

This will be the 21st flyby of Enceladus by Cassini. "It's not our last, but arguably this one is going to be our most dramatic," said project manager Earl Maize.

Cassini has come closer to Enceladus — skimming 15½ miles (25 kilometers) above the surface in 2008 — but never dipped so low through a plume.

Scientists were tempted to fly even lower Wednesday, but did not want to waste fuel. Cassini's orbit around Saturn will not be disturbed by the plume penetration, they asserted. The U.S.-European spacecraft has two years of life remaining before it plunges into Saturn's atmosphere and vaporizes. □

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24/7

Review: Barrymore's not-a-memoir 'Wildflower' is fun read

MIKE HOUSEHOLDER
Associated Press

Countless celebrities have penned autobiographies. Not a lot are like Drew Barrymore's. And that's a good thing. "Wildflower" bounces around chronologically and thematically and generally refuses to bend to the rules of conventional memoir writing.

"If it feels personal for you, then I am so happy, because it was personal for me," Barrymore writes in the not-a-memoir's preface. "I didn't write it in any particular format." The lack of a traditional structure works, though, because the end result for the reader is an illuminating and entertaining look back at the famously free-spirited actress' 40 years on Earth. Free of — pardon the pun — flowery writing, the book is as down-to-earth as the author herself appears. It also is self-

deprecating, with references to Barrymore's "klutziness" and her "valley girl" cadence. Barrymore makes sure to touch on moments that are well-known to the masses, including her: role in the classic film "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial," exhibitionist appearance on David Letterman's late-night talk show and three big-screen collaborations with comedian Adam Sandler. The owner of one of the most famous surnames in Hollywood, Barrymore — the granddaughter of famed stage and film actor John Barrymore and the grandniece of renowned thespians Lionel and Ethel Barrymore — has been a working actor for much of her life. A life that has had more than a few ups and downs. "I just grew up too fast," she writes. Written a quarter-century after the release of Barrymore's "Little Girl Lost," which chronicled her turbulent early years,

"Wildflower" is the work of a mother of two young girls who has a much different perspective on the world.

"Wildflower" is at its most engrossing when the author delves into her relationships with those who have impacted her life, including her barely there parents and supportive in-laws and friends, including "E.T." director Steven Spielberg, who Barrymore writes "took me in, a girl who needed a father, and it meant the world to me." From wild-child headline-generator to entrepreneur, filmmaker and philanthropist, Barrymore's roller-coaster existence is slowing down these days.

Just long enough, anyway, for her to pen an engaging examination of her past. The little girl who once was lost clearly has been found. □



This photo provided by Dutton, Penguin Random House shows the cover of the book, "Wildflower," by Drew Barrymore.

Associated Press

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Hollywood stars align for technology series 'Breakthrough'

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — As a resident of parched California, Angela Bassett is used to playing water warden at home.

"I'm a mom with (twin) kids, 9-year-olds, trying to teach them how to wash dishes, how to wash clothes" in a time of drought, the actress said. "And to turn out the lights. I feel like the father figure in 'Long Day's Journey into Night,' saying, 'Turn that light off!'"

As the director of "Water Apocalypse," she's talking to a bigger audience about water crises here and around the world and the technological advances that may help resolve them.

The hour-long program is part of "Breakthrough," a six-part series on scientific innovation from filmmaking partners Ron Howard and Brian Grazer.

"Breakthrough" debuts Sunday (9 p.m. Eastern) on National Geographic Channel with "Fighting Pandemics" and concludes Dec. 13 with "Water Apocalypse."

Bassett, who also turned di-



This image provided by National Geographic Channels shows director Angela Bassett on set during the filming of an episode on "Water Apocalypse," for the new television series, "Breakthrough." Associated Press

rector on this year's TV movie "Whitney," was among the Hollywood names invited to take charge of one topic from an array that included energy alternatives and brain research.

It's the scientists and others doing innovative work in those fields that are the stars here, not the famous

directors — but Howard and Grazer say their creative talents were key.

The goal was to look at each subject "in a really personal way. That's why we partnered with these storytellers who are very humanistic and passionate and know how to connect with an audience," How-

ard said.

Bassett said she's not presenting herself as an authority.

"I see myself as going in wide-eyed and trying to learn something. Going in with wonder, going in with questions, and hopefully we can come away with a bit more understanding," she said. The big-picture approach of "Water Apocalypse" takes in a remote Ethiopian village where an Italian architect, Arturo Vittori, is trying to help residents conquer a lack of accessible, safe drinking water by building a unique water-collecting tower.

"Decoding the Brain," the Nov. 15 episode from director Brett Ratner ("X-Men: The Last Stand," the "Rush Hour" franchise), includes Dr. Steve Ramirez's study of how to implant or erase memories to potentially benefit those with post-traumatic stress disorder. "The Age of Aging," which Howard directed, includes researchers who believe that the field's great achievement would be extending the human "health span" — the period of life spent without disease — as opposed to our life span. It airs Nov. 29. Why did he assign himself that subject?

"It's not quite as cinematic in some ways," Howard said, "but I felt it was something that we're all thinking about. What does it mean to people in their 80s now? What does it mean to younger people?"

Grazer, who detailed his own questioning approach in the book "A Curious Mind: The Secret to a Bigger Life," said the series parallels his films with Howard, such as "Apollo 13," that offer "the experience of entering a world that has a problem and has a solution in it. We like those thematics."

The pair also had towering figures including Thomas Edison top of mind with "Breakthrough." (GE, created by an 1892 merger of Edison's firm with a competitor, joined with National Geographic on the series and its scientists' work is included in it, although not exclusively.)

"Looking back, we know who the giants were," Howard said, adding that "Breakthrough" could end up "catching one of those giants in action today."

Although such progress is more likely to become apparent in retrospect, Howard said his "Age of Aging" was lucky to record "scientists in motion achieve a goal that is a significant part of the challenge."

No spoilers here; Howard didn't elaborate. The other episodes and their directors:

— "Fighting Pandemics," Sunday, from Peter Berg ("Ballers," "The Leftovers"). Follows those who jump into action when Ebola or other outbreaks occur and who are searching for tools to counter HIV, influenza, malaria and other killer diseases.

— "More Than Human," Nov. 8, from Paul Giamatti ("Sideways," "American Splendor"), about the merger of biology and technology, including research that could help people with traumatic spine injuries walk again.

— "Energy From the Edge," Dec. 6, from producer Aki-Kiva Goldsman ("I Am Legend," "Fringe"). □

Actor Olivier Martinez files for divorce from Halle Berry

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Halle Berry and actor Olivier Martinez are ending their two-year marriage and say they want to proceed with the best interests of their young son in mind.

The actors released a joint statement announcing the divorce Tuesday, hours before Martinez filed a divorce petition citing irreconcilable differences in Los Angeles.

Martinez's filing seeks joint custody of the pair's 2-year-old son and lists Monday as their date of separation.

"It is with a heavy heart that we have come to the decision to divorce," the actors wrote in a joint statement. "We move forward with love and respect for one another and the shared fo-

cus of what is best for our son. We wish each other nothing but happiness in life and we hope that you respect our and, most importantly, our children's privacy as we go through this difficult period."

Berry and Martinez met while making the 2012 film "Dark Tide." They married in July 2013.

The filing does not provide any additional details about their breakup, and does not indicate the pair has a prenuptial agreement. Berry won a best actress Academy Award for "Monster's Ball." She has been married twice previously and has a 7-year-old daughter from her relationship with model Gabriel Aubry. □



In this June 13, 2013 file photo, actor and president of the Champs-Elysees Film Festival Olivier Martinez, left, poses with Actress Halle Berry prior to the screening of the film "Things We Lost in the Fire" with the french title "Nos Souvenirs Brules" during the Champs-Elysees Film Festival, at the "Publicis Cinema" in Paris.

Associated Press



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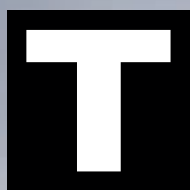


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